Gathering of Shellfish Commissions

Saturday, January 21, 2017

Welcome!
Connecticut’s Shellfish Initiative
Setting a Course for the Future of Connecticut Shellfish

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Connecticut Shellfish Initiative

Environment
Jobs
Recreation
Awareness
Shellfish Tradition
Shellfish Economy

46
Aquaculture Businesses
and Family Owned
Operations

300
Jobs

Norm Bloom and Son
Shellfish Species
Shellfish Recreation

$100K Permit Sales Annually
Safe Harvest

800 Stations

D. Carey
Safe, Healthy Food

$30M Farm-gate value
Ecological Benefits

Clean water
Homes for marine organisms
Shoreline protection

T. Getchis
Planning for Growth

1. Issues and Context
   - What?
   - Why?

2. Recommendations
   - Management
   - Research
   - Outreach
Ensure the Connecticut Department of Agriculture/Bureau or Aquaculture has the laboratory staff capacity to meet existing needs and allow for future growth of shellfish sectors.
Management

- Water sampling, transport, analysis
- Leasing process
- Gear permit review process
- Minimum oyster harvest size
Research

- Vp rapid test, forecasting
- Ocean acidification
- Harmful algal blooms
- Contaminants (e.g. nanoplastics)
- Predator and biofouling control
- Shellfish grow-out technology
Outreach

Shellfish
Public Engagement and Awareness

- Celebrates tradition
- Builds community support
Public Awareness Pilot study
- Four multiple choice questions
- Responses= 695
- Zip code identifier
# Pilot Survey Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Percent Correct</th>
<th>Score (%)</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Q1</td>
<td>Q2</td>
<td>Q3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All (n=695)</td>
<td>85.5</td>
<td>85.1</td>
<td>41.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CT residents only</td>
<td>86.9</td>
<td>85.2</td>
<td>42.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Towns (commercial)</strong></td>
<td>95.3</td>
<td>96.8</td>
<td>47.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Towns (recreational)</td>
<td>90.5</td>
<td>86.5</td>
<td>45.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Towns (coastal)</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>86.3</td>
<td>43.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Towns (inland)</td>
<td>80.9</td>
<td>81.4</td>
<td>39.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Q1.** About shellfish ID
- **Q2.** About ecological benefits
- **Q3.** About recreational harvest
- **Q4.** About commercial harvest
Themed Magazine Issues

Summer 2014

Summer 2016
Art Competitions

Oyster
© Shannon Duggan. 2016. All Rights Reserved.
Celebrating Connecticut Shellfish
http://shellfish.uconn.edu

Clams
© Mary J. McKenzie. 2016. All Rights Reserved.
Winner of Connecticut Sea Grant Art Competition
http://shellfish.uconn.edu
Aquaculture Mapping Atlas (v5 coming soon!)

http://clear3.uconn.edu/aquaculture
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOWN</th>
<th>QUAHOG CLAM</th>
<th>SOFT SHELL</th>
<th>RAZOR CLAM</th>
<th>EASTERN OYSTER</th>
<th>BLUE MUSSEL</th>
<th>BAY SCALLOP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>size</td>
<td>harvest</td>
<td>size</td>
<td>harvest</td>
<td>size</td>
<td>harvest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>restriction</td>
<td>limit</td>
<td>restriction</td>
<td>limit</td>
<td>restriction</td>
<td>limit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Branford</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>1/2 bushel</td>
<td>2 inches</td>
<td>1/4 bushel</td>
<td>3 inches</td>
<td>1/6 bushel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(variable)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darien</td>
<td>1.5 inches</td>
<td>1/2 bushel</td>
<td>1.5 inches</td>
<td>1/2 bushel</td>
<td>4 inches</td>
<td>1/2 bushel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Lyme</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>1/4 bushel</td>
<td>1.5 inches</td>
<td>1/2 bushel</td>
<td>3 inches</td>
<td>1/4 bushel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fairfield</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>1/2 bushel</td>
<td>1.5 inches</td>
<td>1/2 bushel</td>
<td>4 inches</td>
<td>1/2 bushel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenwich</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>1/4 bushel</td>
<td>1.5 inches</td>
<td>1/2 bushel</td>
<td>4 inches</td>
<td>1/2 bushel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groton</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>1/2 bushel</td>
<td>2 inches</td>
<td>1/2 bushel</td>
<td>3 inches</td>
<td>1/2 bushel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guilford</td>
<td>1/2 bushel</td>
<td>1.5 inches</td>
<td>1/4 bushel</td>
<td>3 inches</td>
<td>1/6 bushel</td>
<td>NR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guilford (non-resident)</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>1/4 bushel</td>
<td>1.5 inches</td>
<td>1/2 bushel</td>
<td>3 inches</td>
<td>1/4 bushel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madison</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>1/4 bushel</td>
<td>2 inches</td>
<td>1/2 bushel</td>
<td>***</td>
<td>2 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milford</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>1/2 bushel</td>
<td>1.5 inches</td>
<td>1/2 bushel</td>
<td>3 inches</td>
<td>1/2 bushel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norwalk</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>1/2 bushel</td>
<td>1.5 inches</td>
<td>1/2 bushel</td>
<td>3 inches</td>
<td>1/2 bushel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stamford</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>1/2 bushel</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stonington</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>1/2 bushel</td>
<td>1.5 inches</td>
<td>1/2 bushel</td>
<td>1.5 inches</td>
<td>30 count</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waterford</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>1/2 bushel</td>
<td>1.5 inches</td>
<td>1/2 bushel</td>
<td>1.5 inches</td>
<td>30 count</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WELSCO (Niantic River)</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>1/4 bushel</td>
<td>1.5 inches</td>
<td>1/2 bushel</td>
<td>4 inches</td>
<td>NR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westport</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>1/2 bushel</td>
<td>1.5 inches</td>
<td>1/2 bushel</td>
<td>4 inches</td>
<td>1/2 bushel</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* May not pass through a ring of one and one-half inches internal diameter and may not be less than one inch in thickness.
** Must not pass through a two inch ID ring & must be an adult with a clearly defined growth ring.
*** Seasonal harvest only, check with town for more information.
NR Not restricted

**Conversions**

1 bushel (U.S., dry) = 8 gallons (U.S., dry)
1/4 bushel = 1 peck (U.S., dry) = 2 gallons (U.S., dry)
1 inch = 2.5 centimeters
The Future Looks Bright!

• Public Awareness Outreach
  – Increased demand for Connecticut seafood
  – Increased support for aquaculture development

• Management Approaches
  – Creative leasing strategies
  – Resolving hurdles with water sample collection, transport, analysis

• Targeted Research Program
  – Aquaculture is a key area in 2017 CTSG RFP
  – Vision Plan used to justify future research projects
Acknowledgments

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http://shellfish.uconn.edu